If the length of the titles after a person's name is a measure of the person's achievements, Professor Arthur Li Kwok-cheung will certainly rank high on the list. Professor Li holds an MA, MBChir, MD(Cantab), and an Hon DSc(Hull). He is a Fellow of four surgical colleges and renowned surgical associations, and an Honorary Fellow of five others. That however is only half of the story of Professor Li—the story of an outstanding medical professional, academic and administrator who pursues excellence in every sphere of his life, driven by a deep desire to serve others.

Professor Li was born into the fourth generation of an established Hong Kong family with a well-known tradition of public service. He had a classical Chinese upbringing and his education prior to university was thoroughbred Hong Kong. From a young age, he was nurtured in the spirit of service to others—a driving force for his choice to pursue a medical career. Upon completion of secondary school at St. Paul's Co-educational College, he entered Uppingham School in Rutland, England. He then followed the path of a Natural Science Tripos to medicine at Cambridge's King's College and the Middlesex Hospital Medical School.

Surgery was his choice of specialization because of the challenge of the skills required and the satisfaction of seeing positive results in a patient after treatment. The award of a scholarship enabled him to further his specialist training at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. There he chose hepatobiliary and upper gastrointestinal surgery because of the high incidence of these diseases and the need for such surgical expertise in Hong Kong. In 1980 he was appointed to a consultant post at the Royal Free Hospital, London, which was well known for its hepatobiliary work. In the following year, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine by Cambridge University.

Of the numerous awards given to Professor Li for the excellence in his professional and academic pursuits, the highly competitive European Society for Surgical Research Prize and the Moynihan Medal of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain came early in his career. More recently in 1996, Professor Li was presented the President's Gold Medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in recognition of his outstanding achievements and service in surgery, an award that was made exceptionally by the Royal College and then only to surgeons of international distinction. Professor Li is a prolific author; his research has led to over 260 peer-reviewed journal papers, and numerous book chapters. He is a much-loved and respected figure in the medical community.

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sought-after keynote speaker at international conferences.

Professor Li’s never-ceasing desire to serve others stirred him on beyond pursuing excellence in personal achievements. It was with the mission of extending excellence with and through fellow professionals that he accepted the Foundation Chair of Surgery at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1982. Within a decade, Professor Li led the Department of Surgery from cradle to maturity and the recognition of world-class distinction. His next important contribution was the establishment of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, under his deanship of the Medical Faculty at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Li asserts that his international perspective—having the benefit of a broad education spanning the world and three cultures—has helped in forging a team out of an international hot pot. It is his conviction that no faculty or university can strive for excellence today without appreciating the value of taking the best from the world market. With this conviction, Professor Li has been at the helm of the Chinese University of Hong Kong as its Vice-Chancellor since 1996, leading it to go from strength to strength. The signing of the recent agreement on exchange and collaboration between CUHK and HKUST will strike a note of resonance on the similar international outlook of these two fine academic institutions in Hong Kong. Professor Li’s dedication to excellence is an inspiration for today’s university students in Hong Kong.

Professor Li’s spirit of public service did not end here. He channeled his energy into the hospital service in Hong Kong, serving on the Board of the Hong Kong Hospital Authority, the chairmanship of the United Christian Hospital and the United Christian Medical Services. His public service extends to the political sphere. He was appointed a Hong Kong Affairs Advisor to the People’s Republic of China; a member of the Consultative Committee for the Basic Law, Preparatory Committee of the Hong Kong SAR of the National People’s Congress and the Selection Committee of the SAR. In 1998 he was appointed to the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, I have the honor to present to you, on behalf of the University, Professor Arthur Li Kwok-cheung, Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, for the degree of Doctor of Letters honoris causa.

成就而外科專業方面的貢獻。這項殊榮僅授予極少數享有國際聲譽的外科專家。李教授還是一位著作等身的學者，他在同業評審的學術刊物上發表了超過260篇論文，而許多學術著作中也有他撰寫的篇章。不少國際學術研討會亦爭相邀請他作主題發言。

李教授心中澎湃不息的服務社會宏願，激勵他追求個人成就以外的目標。懷著與同事們共創宏圖的使命，他於1982年出任香港中文大學外科系首任系主任及創系講座教授。在李教授領導下，中大外科系從初生走向成熟，不到十年時間，已享譽世界。他在擔任香港中大醫學院院長期間，他的另一項重要貢獻是創辦眼科及視覺科學學系。李教授廣闊的國際視野，來自他親身經歷跨越三種文化的世界性的教育，這種視野幫助他從國際大熔爐中千錘百鍊，培養人才。他確信如果缺乏從世界市場上招攬良才的份力，今天任何一所學院或大學都無法臻於卓越。在這信念下，李國章教授從1996年起擔任了校長的重任，為香港中文大學掌舵，領導它更上層樓。最近，香港中文大學和香港科技大學簽署了合作協議，這反映了香港的兩所優秀學府對提升國際形象的共同願望。李國章教授追求卓越的精神不斷延發今日香港的大學生。

李教授服務公眾的精神不限於此。他還將自己的心力貫注於香港的醫院服務，擔任香港醫院管理局的成員，並出任基督教聯合醫院和基督教聯合醫療服務會的主席。他的公眾服務範圍擴展到政治領域。他曾任中華人民共和國香港事務顧問、基本法諮詢委員會成員、全國人大常委會香港特別行政區籌備委員會委員，和香港特別行政區政府推選委員會成員。1998年，他獲委為中國人民政治協商會議委員。

副監督先生，本人謹代表香港科技大學，慕請閣下向香港中文大學校長李國章教授頒授榮譽文學博士學位。